

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown in the following Listing of Claims.

1. **(currently amended)** A portable defibrillator comprising a housing containing defibrillator circuitry and a disposable electrode assembly external to said housing, the electrode assembly comprising at least one defibrillator electrode, at least one battery for powering the defibrillator circuitry, and a connector for connecting the electrode and battery to the defibrillator housing, wherein the connector has power output terminals for connecting the at least one battery to the defibrillator circuitry and at least one high voltage input terminal for receiving a defibrillation voltage to be applied to the electrode, and wherein the electrode has a stowage location on the defibrillator housing and the defibrillator has means operative when the connector is electrically connected to the defibrillator housing and the electrode is stowed at the stowage location to prevent the application of battery power to the defibrillator circuitry, the defibrillator further having means for automatically connecting battery power to the defibrillator circuitry upon removal and deployment of the ~~electrodes~~ electrode from the stowage location.

2. **(currently amended)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the defibrillation electrode is electrically connected by a frangible connection to a further defibrillation electrode, the frangible connection being broken when the electrode is removed and deployed for use, and wherein the defibrillator circuitry determines when the frangible connection is broken to complete a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing.

3. **(currently amended)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the electrode is in its stowage location an insulating member interrupts a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing, and wherein the insulating member cooperates with the electrode such that removal and deployment of the electrode from its stowage location causes removal of the insulating member from the power supply circuit and resultant completion of said circuit.

4. **(previously presented)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrode assembly comprises two defibrillation electrodes and a common housing for the defibrillation electrodes and the at least one battery, the common electrode/battery housing being removably fitted to the defibrillator housing and having power output and high voltage input terminals for connection to corresponding terminals on the defibrillator housing.

5. (original) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 4, wherein the common housing is slidable into a complementary recess in the defibrillator housing, the sliding movement bringing the terminals on the two housings into engagement.

6. (currently amended) A defibrillator claimed in claim 5, wherein the common housing comprises a shallow upper tray-like recess for accommodating the defibrillator electrodes and a deeper battery-containing recess occupying part of the area of the tray-like recess ~~whereby the common housing has a stepped lower surface~~, wherein the defibrillator housing has a stepped recess complementary to that of the lower surface of the common housing, wherein the common housing is slid into the recess in the defibrillator housing from an edge thereof in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the tray-like recess, and wherein the engaging terminals are located on riser portions of the lower surface of the common housing and the complementary recess in the defibrillator housing.

7. (currently amended) A portable defibrillator comprising a housing containing defibrillator circuitry and a disposable electrode assembly external to said housing, the electrode assembly comprising at least one defibrillator electrode, at least one battery for powering the defibrillator circuitry, and a connector for connecting the electrode and battery to the defibrillator housing, wherein the connector has power output terminals for connecting the at least one battery to the defibrillator circuitry and at least one high voltage input terminal for receiving a defibrillation voltage to be applied to the electrode, and wherein the electrode has a stowage location on the defibrillator housing and the defibrillator has means operative when the connector is electrically connected to the defibrillator housing and the electrode is stowed at the stowage location to prevent the application of battery power to the defibrillator circuitry, the defibrillator further having means for automatically connecting battery power to the defibrillator circuitry upon removal and deployment of the electrode from the stowage location; wherein the defibrillation electrode is electrically connected by a frangible connection to a further defibrillation electrode, the frangible connection being broken when the electrode is removed and deployed for use, and wherein the defibrillator circuitry determines when the frangible connection is broken to complete a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing, and wherein the electrode assembly comprises two defibrillation electrodes and a common housing for the defibrillation electrodes and the at least one battery, the common electrode/battery housing

being removably fitted to the defibrillator housing and having power output and high voltage input terminals for connection to corresponding terminals on the defibrillator housing.

8. **(previously presented)** A defibrillator as claimed in claim 7, wherein the common housing is slidable into a complementary recess in the defibrillator housing, the sliding movement bringing the terminals on the two housings into engagement.

9. **(previously presented)** A defibrillator claimed in claim 8, wherein the common housing comprises a shallow upper tray-like recess for accommodating the defibrillator electrode electrodes and a deeper battery-containing recess occupying part of the area of the tray-like recess ~~whereby the common housing has a stepped lower surface~~, wherein the defibrillator housing has a stepped recess complementary to that of the lower surface of the common housing, wherein the common housing is slid into the recess in the defibrillator housing from an edge thereof in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the tray-like recess, and wherein the engaging terminals are located on riser portions of the lower surface of the common housing and the complementary recess in the defibrillator housing.